The Gift of Ramadan

By Mansoor Ali Shah
لَا إِلٰهَ إِلَّا اللّٰهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللّٰهِ

Baba: Mansoor, come sit with me. I have a beautiful Hadith to share with you today.

Mansoor: Oh, Baba! I love your stories. What is today's Hadith about?

Baba: The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said, "Whoever observes fasts during the month of Ramadan out of sincere faith and hoping to attain Allah's rewards, then all his past sins will be forgiven." (Sahih Bukhari 38)

Mansoor: Really, Baba? All past sins? That sounds amazing! But why does fasting have such a big reward?

Baba: Fasting is a special act of worship. It teaches us patience, self-control, and gratitude. When we fast sincerely, for the sake of Allah, He forgives our past mistakes and blesses us with immense rewards.

Mansoor: Baba, I tried fasting last year, but I got really hungry by midday. Does that mean my fast didn't count?

Baba: Not at all, my dear. You are still young, and Allah does not make things difficult for children. Even trying to fast is a great effort, and Allah sees your sincerity. As you grow older, fasting will become easier for you.

Mansoor: So, when I fast, I should do it only for Allah, right? Not just because everyone else is doing it?

Baba: Exactly! That's what the Hadith teaches us—our fast should be out of sincere faith and love for Allah. We should not fast just because others do, but because we want to please Allah and earn His rewards.

Mansoor: Baba, what else can I do during Ramadan to earn rewards?

Baba: MashaAllah! That's a great question. Besides fasting, you can read the Quran, pray on time, help others, and make lots of dua. Ramadan is the best time to ask Allah for forgiveness and blessings.

Mansoor: That sounds so beautiful, Baba! I want to try fasting again this year. Maybe I can do half a day at first and then a full day when I'm ready.

Baba: That is a wonderful idea, my son! Allah loves those who try their best. May He bless you and make fasting easy for you.

Mansoor: Ameen! Thank you, Baba. I can't wait for Ramadan now!

Baba: Alhamdulillah! Ramadan is truly a gift, my dear. Let's prepare our hearts and minds for this special month.